

Amendments to the Specification:

Applicant requests that the abstract be replaced with the following paragraph:

Embodiments of the present invention comprise methods and systems for using and providing user preference information for media and multimedia consumption.

In response to the examiner's request for a copy of page 3 of the specification, applicant submits, on the following page, a copy of page 3 of the specification as originally filed.

Applicant requests that the paragraph beginning at page 62, line 30 and ending at page 63, line 22 be replaced with the following amended paragraph:

C1 Referring to FIG. 26, the usage preferences description may be used in cooperation with an MPEG-7 compliant data stream and/or devise. MPEG-7 descriptions are described in ISO/IEC JTC1/SC29/WG11 "MPEG-7 Media/Meta DSs (V0.2), August 1999, incorporated by reference herein. It is preferable that media content descriptions are consistent with descriptions of preferences of users consuming the media. Consistency can be achieved by using common descriptors in media and user preference descriptions or by specifying a correspondence between user preferences and media descriptors. Browsing preferences descriptions are preferably consistent with media descriptions describing different views and summaries of the media. The content preferences description 542 is preferably consistent with, e.g., a subset of the content description of the media 552 specified in MPEG-7 by content description scheme. The classification preferences description 544 is preferably consistent with, e.g., a subset of the classification description 554 defined in MPEG-7 as classification description scheme. The creation preferences description 546 is preferably consistent with, e.g., a subset of the creation description 556 specified in MPEG-7 by creation description scheme. The keyword preferences description 540 is preferably a string supporting multiple languages and consistent with corresponding media content description schemes. Consistency between media and user preferences descriptions is depicted or shown in FIG. 26 by double arrows in the case of content, creation, and classification preferences.
